

NEWSY ITEMS FROM OUR EXCHANGES

Waterbury items in Allen News: Evan and Ralph Surber drove to Homer Thursday to visit their uncle, Jim Foltz, who has been confined to his bed for the past seven months.

Walthill Times: A. A. Nash departed Tuesday for Thurston where he will spend the winter at the home of his daughter. His family now are pretty well scattered; with daughters in New Mexico, in the Indian service, he and his son were left alone. He has rented his residence, in the west part of town, to C. N. Reid.

Walthill Citizen: Mrs. Geo. Gallagher returned to South Sioux City on Tuesday, after visiting her sister, Mrs. V. P. Kelley.

Attorney O. F. Byron defended Glenn Bail at Dakota City, and he was found not guilty. Mr. Byron is gaining a splendid reputation as a criminal lawyer, and his services are being sought on every hand.

Lyons Mirror: Mr. and Mrs. D. U. Parmalee, of Parmalee, S. D., and Mrs. R. C. Bauer and her son, M. W. Bauer, of Colome, S. D., returned to their homes Monday morning after attending the funeral of M. M. Warner.

On Friday, November 25th, the Lyons Mirror-Sun, which has had the same owner for more than 31 years, changes hands.

Charles H. Walton, who has been connected with the paper since October 1st, and Fred Kothe, of Muscatine, Iowa, are the new proprietors.

Winnebago Chieftain: John Deering is kept in bed with Mrs. Rheumatism this week.

Moses M. Warner died at his home in Lyons of pneumonia, November 17. He was 66 years old. His wife died last March. They left a daughter, Mary, seven years of age. He was in the publishing business in Lyons for thirty years. His father, Jesse F. Warner, was Indian agent at the Winnebago Agency, 1884-88 in President Cleveland's first term. It is with sincere regret that we chronicle the passing of this brother editor and friend of many years.

Ponec Journal: Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Jacobson are spending the Thanksgiving vacation with Mrs. Jacobson's sister at Dakota City.

The South Sioux City Mail states that Dr. Davey met with an auto accident with a car belonging to M. J. Perron at South Sioux City last Thursday. Both cars were damaged.

Fonda, Iowa, Times: Mrs. Lillian McLaughlin was called to Emerson, Nebraska, this week on a case of nursing. She will leave Saturday, and expects to be gone for the greater part of the winter.

Sioux City Journal, 29: Died—In Missouri Valley, Ia., November 28, 1921, John Murphy, Jr., 48 years old, of Missouri Valley, of a complication of diseases. Mrs. J. R. Murphy, mother of the deceased, succumbed two weeks ago at Onawa, Iowa. Mr. Murphy was a nephew of Henry O'Neill, of Jackson, Neb., and Mrs. C. H. Duggan, of Sioux City. The deceased is survived by his widow, Margaret, of Missouri Valley; his father, J. R. Murphy, of Onawa; three sisters, Margaret, Helen and Mary, all of Onawa; three brothers, William Murphy, of Fort Smith, Ark., and Charles and Mark Murphy, both of Onawa. Funeral services will be held at Onawa at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Wayside Notes, in Sioux City Jour-

nal, 27: M. P. Ohlman and Mrs. Ohlman, Dakota pioneers, have been celebrating the golden anniversary of their marriage, they having joined their earthly fortunes at Dakota City, Neb., in November, 1871. Mr. Ohlman served as a clerk in the old Frontier hotel, the Northwestern, Sioux City, for a period, and later was in the employ of the early day house of Tootle & Charles. Soon the family home was established at the Dakota territory capital—Yankton—where it has remained to this hour. This pair, hale and clear of mind, and the parents of sons and daughters who are achieving their own happiness and success, rank high among Dakotans.

Allen News: H. H. Garehime attended the funeral of Mrs. Blessing of South Sioux City.

The Hiram Baker family visited at the home of Mrs. Baker's parents in South Sioux City over Sunday.

Mrs. John Allen has been sick with the quinsy down at South Sioux City where she had been helping care for her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. V. W. McDonald and Mrs. H. C. Heckt attended the funeral of Dr. McArthur in South Sioux City Thursday of last week.

Mrs. John Allen and Mrs. Richard Twamley of Allen, daughters of Mrs. Mary E. Blessing, attended the funeral services Sunday afternoon at South Sioux City.

Cambridge, Ohio, Jeffersonian: Everybody at Homer, Neb., is talking about the day when Mrs. Mildred Lothrop, telephone operator heroine, will be presented with the Vail medal for heroism and a \$1000 cash award. The whole town will turn out and cheer. And the mayor will give a long speech and tell how Mrs. Lothrop saved the whole town from drowning May 31, 1920, when the cloudburst came down from Walthill. Of course the mayor will tell the story with frills. But this is how the heroine, widowed mother of five children, tells it:

"That night I was awakened at 2 p. m. by the ringing of the phone bell. A voice told me of the cloudburst, and warned me that all the Homer folk would be drowned if I didn't get them to safety.

"I started to put the plugs in the switchboard and tell phone subscribers to rush to the hills and warn their neighbors who didn't have telephones. Most of them just laughed at me.

"Then I sent my boy, Donald, who is 16, to ring the fire bell. I knew the people would phone in to ask me where the fire was and that I could warn them. They did.

"And between warnings I called the farmers for miles around, asking them to bring food and clothing to Homer, for I knew there'd be need of relief.

"I was so busy I didn't realize how close the flood was getting. "First thing I knew a big wave swept into the office, drenching me to the chin. My switchboard went dead. I struggled out into the dark. People were screaming. Drowning animals were floating about.

"I found refuge in the second story of a building, above the water level. I don't know how I got there.

"Then for two hours I helped other women pass out food to the wet and cold men who were doing rescue work."

"And for all that, Mrs. Lothrop will receive, in a few days \$1000 in cash and a little golden disk, graven with these words:

"For noteworthy public service in the face of increasing personal danger and public disaster, displaying

AMERICA'S GREATEST TELEPHONE HEROINE

Mrs. Mildred Lothrop of Homer, Nebraska, Wins Theodore N. Vail Award for Noteworthy Public Service.



Telephone People Honored With National Medals.

Top, left to right—Mrs. Mildred Lothrop, Homer, Nebr.; Bird's-eye view of Homer; Frank H. Forrest, Dakota City, Nebr. Center—P. W. Oldfield, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; Frank C. Wells, Pittsburg, Pa.; John E. Moran, Syracuse, N. Y.; Charles N. Cox, Harlingen, Texas. Lower—Mrs. Kate Day, Dallas, Texas; Harold E. LaBelle, Tootle, Utah; Fred J. L. Bayha, East Providence, R. I.; Miss Katherine Lind, Mahaffey, Pa.

To a little Nebraska woman, the mother of five boys, three of whom are World War veterans, has come a medal and with it a \$1,000 award, one of the highest of such honors ever paid a woman in the United States.

The woman is Mrs. Mildred Lothrop, telephone operator in the little town of Homer, Nebr.

The honor is a special gold medal and cash award of \$1,000, provided out of a fund left by the late Theodore N. Vail, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Mr. Vail's ideals of "Service First" have been perpetuated in a memorial fund established in his name for the purpose of recognizing in a substantial way, the heroic performances of Bell telephone men and women in behalf of the public.

There are three kinds of medals awarded each year under this plan. There is first the silver medal with \$250 cash, which has been awarded to nine Bell employees in this country for exceptional performances during 1920.

Second, is the gold medal with \$500 cash, reserved for employees whose exceptional deeds of service are still more outstanding.

Third and last, is the special gold medal, only one of which can be awarded each year and which is given only in the cases of utmost heroism, self-sacrifice and exceptional service.

It is the big special honor that has come to Mrs. Lothrop. Since this is the first year of the existence of the Vail Memorial Medal Plan, the honor coming to Mrs. Lothrop is even more pronounced. Her performance, tersely recited in a citation accompanying the medal, was:

"For noteworthy public service, in the face of increasing personal danger and public disaster, displaying the highest courage, loyalty and devotion in saving human lives.

the highest courage, loyalty and devotion in saving human life."

Emerson Enterprise: Robert Lusebrink and oldest son, and Louis Rockwell of near Homer, attended the funeral of H. H. Stolze Tuesday afternoon.

In the death of Herman Stolze, which occurred at the farm two miles northeast of Emerson last Saturday morning, our community mourns the loss of a prominent citizen, a progressive leader and a man who did things. Also a pioneer who more than did his part in the developing of Northeast Nebraska from its virgin and primitive condition of over a third of a century ago—to its broad and fertile acres—the best agricultural and stock raising district in the corn belt section of the United States. And Herman Stolze died on the home farm he moved onto with his parents in 1883.

Herman Stolze was a friend of any man in trouble, his word once given, was never broken. The eleven years

"After midnight on May 31, 1920, receiving word of an approaching flood, she took her place at the switchboard, warning the people to flee for safety and calling for help from the surrounding country, continuing her efforts until the rising water disabled the switchboard, when she barely escaped from the flooded building."

The flood mentioned in the citation was when a cloudburst caused Omaha Creek, which flows through Homer, Nebraska, to sweep the town between two and three o'clock in the morning. Had only in a thin nightdress, Mrs. Lothrop, notified of the approaching flood from up the valley, sat at her switchboard for 25 minutes with the roar of the oncoming flood in her ears, warning everyone with whom she could connect.

Through her efforts, not a life was lost and thousands of dollars worth of property saved.

Frank H. Forrest, telephone manager at Dakota City, Nebr., was awarded a silver medal and \$250 cash in recognition of his services in connection with the same disaster. The citation accompanying Mr. Forrest's medal reads:

"For courage and devotion to duty in the service of an isolated and threatened community. On June 1, 1920, at the risk of his life he fought his way for miles through a flooded valley to reach the stricken town of Homer, where he reestablished, by telephone, communication with the outside world, summoned aid and assisted in the work of restoration."

Mrs. Lothrop, Homer, Nebr., and Mr. Forrest, Dakota City, Nebr., are both employees of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company, which is one of the 18 Associated companies which,

with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, form what is known as the "Bell System."

Eight other silver medals were awarded by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company's Theodore N. Vail Medal Committee, as follows:

Fred J. L. Bayha, East Providence, R. I., who entered a burning house, rescued a small child, gave aid and comfort to a fatally burned woman, and alone put out the fire.

Charles N. Cox, Harlingen, Texas, who found a broken rail, climbed a pole and notified a train dispatcher, preventing the wreck of a heavily loaded passenger train.

Mrs. Kate Day, Dallas, Texas, who prevented a panic during a fire in a rooming house for operators.

Harold LaBelle, Tootle, Utah, who, after being out nearly all night in a blizzard locating line trouble, sought and rescued from freezing an injured and helpless companion, carrying him in the darkness for over a mile over a rough swamp, and driving with him 21 miles for medical attention.

Miss Katherine Lind, Mahaffey, Pa., who, when the town of Mahaffey was swept by fire, hastened to the threatened telephone building where she remained alone at the switchboard, maintaining emergency service despite the rapid spreading of fire around her.

John E. Moran, Syracuse, N. Y., who saw a serious automobile accident, used his equipment to rescue two persons, summoned aid and then by first aid treatment saved the life of one of the victims.

P. W. Oldfield, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., who saved an electric light employee who had come in contact with a dangerous current.

Frank C. Wells, Pittsburg, Pa., who saved the life of another lineman who had come in contact with a circuit carrying a dangerous electric current.

Burlington Train Kills Transient

When the Burlington's Sioux City-Lincoln passenger train No. 17 approached the signal tower at this place last Thursday at 12:40 it struck a man who had evidently been lying alongside the track, and mangled him so that death was instantaneous. The accident occurred about 350 feet north of the Burlington and Northwestern crossing. No one seems to have seen the man at the time the engine struck him. The train was brought to a stop and the train crew made a hurried examination of the man, finding that life was extinct. Paul Kinkel, day man at the signal tower was left in charge of the body until officers were notified. Coroner Geo. W. Leamer and A. J. Hennessey of the Westcott undertaking company of Sioux City arrived and made a search of the clothing, finding a note book, in which was written the name of Charles Noble, Clark, S. D., also in case of accident to notify Ed Dowd of Clark, S. D. Sixty cents in silver, a pocket knife, comb, tooth brush and a few minor articles were also found in his pockets.

A telegram was sent to Mr. Dowd, as directed, but his reply stated that he knew of no relatives of the dead man. Another telegram was sent asking him where the body should be buried and his reply was to bury it here. The remains were removed to the Westcott undertaking parlors in Sioux City.

The man appeared to be a laborer, about 50 years old, weight 175 pounds and height five feet seven inches.

He was well dressed, wearing a blue serge suit, khaki shirt, woollen underclothing, black hat, brown shoes dark colored overcoat and blue overalls.

A man, presumably the one killed, was seen by Towerman Kinkel to pass the tower about a short time before the train approached the crossing, but there being so many travelers along the right of way, he paid no particular attention to him. The accident was reported in to headquarters by Agent J. N. Byergo.

COUNTY SCHOOL NOTES

W. E. VOSS, Superintendent.

The county attendance officer hopes to complete his first round this week through all but two school districts. We find that it is not necessary at this time to call in these two districts, for there is no case in them that may even be questioned. In some other districts, we have found but a case or two that merely needed a little attention, while in a few exceptional districts the attendance was so bad and the interest in the schools so poor that it almost seemed that the patrons wanted to forget that they had a school in the district. Even the largest of these schools can point to but one or a very few pupils who have been regular in attendance up to this time. These things are not the fault of your year's teachers, for I know the history of the school attendance of these schools for years. The trouble in these districts seems to be with the parents themselves, for neighboring districts are supporting their schools, under apparently similar circumstances, with a fine or regular attendance. The attitude towards schools and the value of an education differs widely even in adjoining districts. The one set of patrons is right for schools; while the other is off wrong, and does not seem to realize that it will take at least a well rounded common school education hereafter to have any standing at all as a citizen fit for a Democracy.

The enrollment of the institute was 88, while a perfect enrollment would have been 94. On the basis of perfect enrollment and attendance, the teachers may be classified as follows: Those absent without a known excuse 5, absent with proper excuse 2, unsatisfactory attendance 4, satisfactory attendance 31, perfect attendance 52. One of the public school teachers and four of the parochial school teachers have not accounted for their absence. We have 79 public school teachers and 13 parochial school teachers.

M. E. BAZAAR

Thursday, December 1st In Church Basement

The Ladies of the M. E. Church will hold their annual Bazaar this Thursday afternoon and evening in the church basement.

A sale of articles suitable for holiday gifts, as well as for general usefulness, will be held during the afternoon and evening.

A 6 o'clock supper will be served at 35-cents per plate.

A "White Elephant" sale will be the feature of the evening session, and there is where you'll get your money's worth of fun.

An informal program will be given during the evening.

Everybody Welcome.

A CHURCH WORTH HAVING WORTH ATTENDING

A Church Well Attended

More Worth Having

If Not Worshipping Elsewhere

COME

and Help Make Your Church

MORE WORTH WHILE

Sunday School.....10 A. M.

Preaching.....11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.

E. C. MOORE, Pastor, M. E. CHURCH

Low Newspaper Prices

The Evening State Journal has been reduced to \$3.50 a year or \$4.50 with Sunday. The Morning Journal \$4.00 a year or \$5.00 with Sunday. This makes the Journal the biggest newspaper bargain in Nebraska.

The Herald for News when it is in...